Commissioner for Patents
Application Serial No. 09/891,726
February 2, 2007
Page 7

REMARKS

I. Summary of the Examiner's Action

A. Claim Rejections

As set forth in paragraph 3 of the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 6,424,178 B1 to Harrison (hereinafter "the Harrison patent").

As set forth in paragraph 4 of the Office Action, claims 3 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the Harrison patent and further in view United States Patent No. 6,263,192 B1 to Alderton (hereinafter "the Alderton patent").

These rejections are respectfully disagreed with, and are traversed below.

B. <u>Claim Objections and Allowable Subject Matter</u>

As set forth at paragraph 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claim 4 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that it would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Commissioner for Patents
Application Serial No. 09/891,726
February 2, 2007
Page 8

II. Teleconference of January 26, 2007

In a Teleconference that occurred on January 26, 2007 initiated by Examiner Ghebretinsae, Examiner Ghebretinsae indicated that he was now the Examiner of Record. The Examiner of Record then reiterated the prior Examiner's objection to claim 4 and asked whether Applicant's Representative would amend the claims to recite the subject matter of claim 4 so that the case could be allowed. Applicant's representative agreed subject to approval by Applicant. Approval has now been received from Applicant.

III. Applicant's Response - Claim Rejections

Applicant has proposed amendments to claims 1 and 5 so that claims 1 and 5 now recite the subject matter of claim 4. Applicant also has proposed new claims 9 - 11. Claim 10 finds support throughout the application as filed; see, for example, FIG. 2 and accompanying description. Claims 9 and 11 find support at, for example, page 8, lines 25 - 29. Claim 4 has been cancelled. Applicant submits that these amendments place the case in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests that the outstanding rejections be withdrawn and the case be passed to issuance.

Commissioner for Patents
Application Serial No. 09/891,726
February 2, 2007
Page 9

IV. Conclusion

The Applicant submits that in light of the foregoing remarks the application is now in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the outstanding rejections be withdrawn and that the case be passed to issuance.

Respectfully submitted,

Selvery 2, 2007

David M. O'Neill (35,304)

Customer No.: 29683

HARRINGTON & SMITH, LLP 4 Research Drive Shelton, CT 06484-6212 Telephone: (203) 925-9400

Facsimile: (203) 944-0245 Email: DOneill@hspatent.com

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence was faxed to the United States Patent Office on the date indicated.

Date

February 4,

Name